

IN THE CLAIMS

No amendments are made to the claims, which are reproduced for the Examiner's convenience below:

1. (ORIGINAL) A method of providing a video program in response to a demand by a subscriber, wherein the video program is repeatedly transmitted on one of a plurality of channels, each repeated transmission separated from a previous transmission by a predetermined period of time, the method comprising the steps of:

delivering a first unencrypted portion of at least one video program available for viewing on demand;

storing the first unencrypted portion of the at least one video program as unencrypted data on a Digital Video Recorder (DVR);

offering the video program for purchase by the subscriber;

accepting a subscriber demand to purchase the complete video program;

retrieving the stored first unencrypted portion of the at least one video program after accepting a subscriber demand to purchase the complete video program;

authorizing capture and decryption of a remaining portion of purchased video program;

switching from the stored first unencrypted portion of the at least one video program to the remaining portion of the purchased video program.

2. (ORIGINAL) The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said step of delivering a portion of at least one video program further comprises delivering a portion of at least one video program on a hidden channel.

3. (ORIGINAL) The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said step of authorizing capture and decryption of a remaining portion of the purchased video program further comprises the remaining portion containing less than all of the program and including at least the portion not stored in the first portion.

4. (ORIGINAL) The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said step of switching from the stored first unencrypted portion of the at least one video program to the remaining portion of the video program further comprises switching to the remaining portion at one of a plurality of predetermined transition points.

5. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A method of purchasing a program on demand comprising the steps of:

- sending a first unencrypted portion of the program for purchase to a subscriber's digital video recorder;

- storing the first unencrypted portion of the at least one program for purchase on the subscriber's digital video recorder;

- offering at least one program for purchase;

- selecting the at least one program for purchase;

- retrieving the stored first unencrypted portion of the selected at least one program for purchase for viewing by the subscriber;

- sending at least the remaining portion of the selected at least one program to the digital video recorder;

- authorizing storage and viewing by the subscriber of the selected at least one program;

- splicing the first unencrypted portion of the selected program with the remaining portion of the selected video to form a complete program;

- storing the complete program on the digital video recorder for a predetermined period of time.

6. (ORIGINAL) The method as claimed in claim 5 wherein the step of sending a first unencrypted portion of a program for purchase further comprises sending the first unencrypted portion of a program for purchase over a channel that is hidden to the subscriber but recognized by the digital video recorder.

7. (ORIGINAL) The method as claimed in claim 6 wherein the step of sending a first unencrypted portion of a program for purchase further comprises sending information about the program in addition to the first unencrypted portion.

8. (ORIGINAL) The method as claimed in claim 7 wherein the information in addition to the first unencrypted portion further comprises promotional video, additional description about the program and program reviews.

9. (ORIGINAL) The method as claimed in claim 8 further comprising the step of offering a free preview of a program from the stored first unencrypted portion of the at least one program.

10. (ORIGINAL) The method as claimed in claim 6 wherein said step of splicing the first unencrypted portion of the selected program with the remaining portion of the selected video to form a complete program further comprises the steps of:
inserting triggers at predetermined transition points in the remaining portion of the program;
delivering the inserted triggers with the program;
identifying the inserted triggers at the digital video recorder for switching from the stored first unencrypted portion of the program to the remaining portion of the program.

11. (ORIGINAL) The method as claimed in claim 10 wherein the triggers are delivered with the video.

12. (ORIGINAL) The method as claimed in claim 10 wherein the triggers are included with a service's metadata.

13. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) An apparatus configured to provide a program in response to a subscriber demand comprising:

a digital video recorder being an integrated receiver/decoder having digital video recording capabilities;

a first unencrypted portion of at least one program stored on the digital video recorder;

means for accepting an offer to purchase the at least one program;

means for retrieving the first unencrypted portion from storage while retrieving a remaining portion of the program on the digital video recorder;

means for splicing the first unencrypted portion of the at least one program with the remaining portion of the at least one program to define a complete program;

the complete program stored on the digital video recorder.

14. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus as claimed in claim 13 wherein the offer to purchase at least one program further comprises a program guide stored on the at least one digital video recorder.

15. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus as claimed in claim 14 further comprising a channel hidden from the program guide but known by the digital video recorder for sending the first unencrypted portion to the digital video recorder for storage thereon.

16. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus as claimed in claim 13 wherein the means for splicing the first unencrypted portion with the remaining portion further comprises triggers inserted into the remaining portion at predetermined transition points for identification by the digital video recorder as a point of transition between the first unencrypted portion and the remaining portion.

17. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the at least a portion of the program is repeatedly transmitted on one of a plurality of channels, each repeated transmission separated from a previous transmission by a predetermined period of time.

18. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the at least a portion of the program consists of the remaining portion of the program.

19. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the at least a portion of the program comprises the entire program.